CLAIM

- 1 A method of preparing ruthenium or osmium complexes with chelating carbene ligands
- comprising contacting a ruthenium or osmium carbene complex of the formula
- X¹X²L¹L²M=CR¹R² with an internal olefin ligand precursor of the formula:

4 wherein

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- X^1 and X^2 are each, independently, any anionic ligand; 5
- 6 L1 and L2 are each, independently, any neutral electron donor.
- 7 M is ruthenium or osmium:
 - R¹ and R² are each, independently, selected from hydrogen or a substitutent selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, alkylcarboxylate, arylcarboxylate, alkoxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, aryloxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthio, alkylsulfonyl, alkylsulfinyl, and trialkylsilyl, wherein each of the substituents is substituted or unsubstituted;
- 12 R³ and R⁴ are each, independently, selected from hydrogen or a substitutent selected from the 13 group consisting of alkyl, aryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, C2-C20 alkoxycarbonyl, and C1-C20 trialkylsilyl, wherein each of the substituents is substituted or unsubstituted:
- R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, and R⁸ are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, 15 16 halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, alkoxy, alkenyloxy, aryloxy, alkoxycarbonyl, carbonyl, 17 alkylamino, alkylthio, alkylsulfonyl, nitrile, nitro, alkylsulfinyl, trihaloalkyl, perfluoroalkyl, carboxylic 18 acid, ketone, aldehyde, nitrate, cyano, isocyanate, hydroxyl, ester, ether, amine, imine, amide, sulfide, 19 disulfide, sulfonate, carbamate, silane, siloxane, phosphine, phosphate, or borate;
- 20 Y is a heteroatom selected from the group oxygen (O), sulfur (S), nitrogen (N), or phosphorus 21 (P);

n is 1, in the case of a divalent heteroatom such as O or S, or 2, in the case of a trivalent
heteroatom such as N or P; and
Z is a group selected from hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, functionalized alkyl, functionalized aryl where
the functional group(s) may independently be one or more or the following: alkoxy, aryloxy, halogen,
carboxylic acid, ketone, aldehyde, nitrate, cyano, isocyanate, hydroxyl, ester, ether, amine, imine, amide,
sulfide, disulfide, carbamate, silane, siloxane, phosphine, phosphate, or borate.